



Contents

News

Resident Assistant
Troop Drive
Homecoming in
Photos
Career Corner

Opinions

Taboo Tattoos
Who Broke the
Government?
A Note to
Freshmen

Features

The Loch
Bastille
Call of Duty

Sports

Homecoming
Victory
Volleyball
Cross Country
Men's and
Women's Soccer

The Back Page

Advice
Creative Corner

Pumas Support America's Armed Forces

Resident Assistants organize a food and supply drive to support troops stationed in Afghanistan

By Kylie Hill
News Writer

America, the land of the free and the home of the brave. Currently, hundreds of courageous soldiers are overseas risking their lives in order to protect their fellow Americans. In order to support these soldiers, the Resident Assistants of Merlini and Seifert, including Adam Meeker, a Junior Finance and Accounting major, and Katie Phillips, a Junior Accounting major, have organized a supply drive that will provide these brave men and women with a little taste of home.

The supply drive has been going on since the beginning of September. Originally, the drive was only going to run through the month of September, however, it was extended to run through October 9, 2013, which is the day they will be packing the boxes for shipment. The boxes will be shipped overseas to active service men and women stationed on two bases in Afghanistan; one of the bases has Saint Joseph's College alumni stationed there

and the other is a neutral base. Items that can be donated include nuts, granola bars, individual drink mixes, individually wrapped snacks, individually wrapped hard candy, gum, beef jerky, microwave popcorn, fruit roll ups, instant oatmeal, and fruit snacks. Students are asked not to donate pork products. Some other items that can be donated are socks, travel packs of unscented baby wipes, batteries, and playing cards.

After inquiring about the best items to donate based on the demands, Phillips recommended "Gatorade packets, gum, and snack foods." All donations can be put in boxes that the on-duty Resident Assistant in each hall has. They can also be taken to the Housing and Resident Life Office on the second floor of the Halleck Center between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. Money collected from the Ribbon Sales that took place outside the cafeteria from September 9th through the 11th, the Seifert Penny Wars, and the money and canned food collected at

the Merlini Game Night will also go towards filling the boxes, as well as paying for packing supplies and shipping.

Phillips commented that "this is just a first year trial but maybe it could turn into a yearly thing." As of right now, the supply drive has been fairly successful; the residents in Merlini and Seifert, and faculty and staff members have been major contributors so far. Further participation is encouraged: the more donations the better! The men and women stationed in Afghanistan who

will be receiving these boxes will greatly appreciate the Puma support and generosity.



St. Joseph's College Offers International Opportunities

Professor April Toadvine and Education First Tours will travel with SJC students to Ireland in May

By Randee Portteus
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Have you ever wanted to see the world? Travel to foreign countries? See things you've never seen, meet people you'd never meet at home, and experience what you've never experienced and never thought you would?

April Toadvine, Associate Professor English here at Saint Joseph's, will be traveling to

Ireland with students from Saint Joseph's through Education First Tours.

This will not be her first time overseas with SJC and EF Tours, though. In December of 2011, Toadvine traveled to London, England with a group of students; over the 2012 Winterim, she offered a travel class for Core 8: China, partnered with Linda McFarland who offered it as a travel class for International Business; and in May of 2013,

she traveled to Italy on a tour that included several cities.

The Ireland tour will be nine to twelve days long, depending on if you buy the tour extension. Two full days will be for travel (the flight takes about seven and a half hours over 3,600 miles of land and the Atlantic Ocean). The other days will be spent in various cities, beginning in Dublin, where student will see the Book of Kells and Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

The next day they will tour Cork and have dinner there. In Killarney for the next two days, they will visit the Blarney Castle and kiss the famous Blarney Stone. They will also visit the Bog Museum and take excursions to Kinsale and the Ring of Kerry. After that, students will spend their last two days in Dublin, where they will see Cashel Rock and take a walking tour that focuses on the 1916 Rebellion. The tour extension will spend three days in Belfast.

Right now, the tour cost stands at almost \$2,900. The tour extension is an extra fee. Toadvine does not plan on attending the tour extension, but encourages any students that want to do so.

The Education First tour describes the Irish Heritage tour, saying, "Roll out the green carpet and let the raw beauty of this timeless landscape become your reality. See it cover the streets of Dublin in a quilt of fact and lore, from the fiction of Molly Malone to the legend of Big Jim Larkin, whose bronze monument is a bold reminder of his realness. And before the city streets lose their charm, follow the trail of daffodils that outlines the Ring of Kerry."

Toadvine also encourages anyone interested in the Irish Heritage Tour to contact her as soon as possible! The more, the merrier on the tour. Students often make lifelong friends on tour and have experiences that they will never forget.

You can find Toadvine in her office in the Core Education Building, office 208, or you can send her a message at aprilt@saintjoe.edu. If you are interested in seeing the itinerary for the tour, please visit the Education First website and search for the Irish Heritage Tours.

Join the trip and have the experience of a lifetime!



A busy street in the city of Dublin, Ireland. Photo courtesy of Education First Tours.





Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S. Students celebrate the beginning of Homecoming Weekend at the Pep Rally by joining the band, dance team, cheerleaders, and the football players. The winners of the SJC Amazing Race and the Freshman, Sophomore and Junior Homecoming Court were announced. Above, the SJC cheerleaders, glowing in their headbands, pump up puma spirit at the Pep Rally.

Homecoming 2013 Glows Despite Rain

By Randee Portteus and Jessica Ruschke
Co-Editors-in-Chief

Homecoming 2013, gave students and alumni many traditional activities and a few new twists. From the hugely successful new Amazing Race Competition, which ran from Tuesday, October 1st to Friday, October 3rd, to the Homecoming football game and Homecoming dance on October 5th, the weekend was packed with food, fun, and friends.



Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S. The Homecoming Court is introduced during half time at the football game.



Photos courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S. (Left) PAC Executive Board Member Randee Portteus crowns senior Audra Rains as Homecoming Queen. (Right) Marching Pumas play during half time.



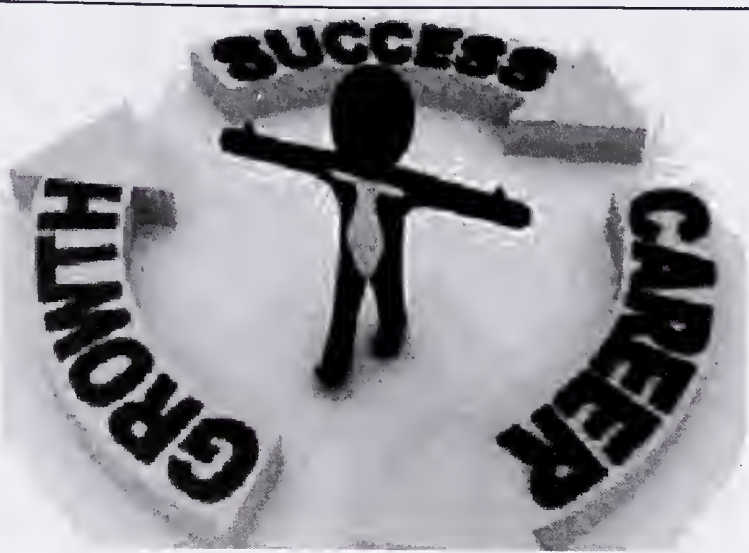
(Top) Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S. Dance Team performs during Half Time. (Bottom) Photo courtesy of Anthony Majewski. Contestants participate in their endurance challenge. They must really want that iPad!



(Above) Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S. Puma athletes selling Saint Joseph's College apparel outside the Homecoming football game.



(Left) Photo courtesy of Anthony Majewski. Second place runners up compete in the last Amazing Race challenge - the two-eyed, three-legged race.



Career Corner

Career Center gives friendly networking advice

By Carey Monroe
Career Development Office

What is networking, and why should you network?

The step from classroom to workplace, or working up to the next corporate rung, can be a big one. Learn to network and broaden your prospects—you'll be proactively managing your career.

Simply put, networking is the process of expanding your circle of contacts for the purpose of achieving more than you could on your own. By sharing information, experience, and resources, recipients and contacts alike establish connections and build relationships for greater personal and professional

advancement. Networking may lead to a referral, new business, or even a job. The more quality people you know, the better your chances of broadening your world and bettering your career.

In a Nutshell:

Remember, networking is about the quality of contacts, not the number:

- Determine your goals. Interact in a professional manner.
- Listen. Give honest answers.
- Ask questions. The purpose is to learn and make contacts.
- Ask for and give referrals.
- If you're shy, start with a friendly face and small talk.
- Don't apologize. People attend functions to network, so it's not an imposition to ask.
- Be conversational, be genuine.
- Always follow up immediately.

**Remember that networking can open you up to new opportunities, maybe even that dream job.*

Announcement from the Career Center:

Don't forget about the CCN Job Board outside the cafeteria!

Upcoming Puma Events!

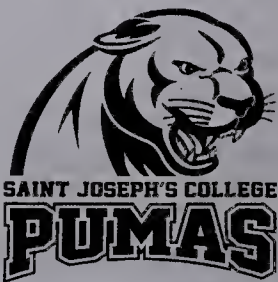
10/3-10/15 Take Back the Night Events

10/13-10/16 Busy Student Retreat

10/16 Freshman Banquet

10/19 Puma to Puma Day

Want to get the word out about your event? Email the date and name of your event to Randee Portteus at rpt8460@saintjoe.edu or Jessica Ruschke at jrt8465@saintjoe.edu!



The Taboo Tattoo

By Ashley Brinkman
Opinions Writer

If you were to see me on any given day of the week, you would notice my large framed glasses, my addiction to flannel overshirts, and the large arrow tattoo that is on my right forearm. What would be your first reaction to seeing it? Would you judge me for that? Would you think that I was bad person? Or would you smile and ask me what it meant?

The taboo that is tattoo is a growing trend, not just among college students. I have seen my fair share of tattoos around campus, but I have also seen them on business men and women. People who work in places where appearance in everything. It makes me think, did the employer know about these tattoos before hand?

Then I corrected myself. It should not matter if a person has

body art. The question I should be asking is, did this employer hire this person for their superior skill? I have two jobs on campus and when I went in for both interviews I made a point to look nice, tattoo clearly visible. I wanted my employer to know that I had it and that it did not affect my skills or ability to get a job done. A tattoo does not mark a person as worthy or unworthy.

Parents are different. I knew from the moment I made the decision to permanently mark my skin I was rebelling against everything my family had stood for. The tattoo made me happy; it became a part of me. When I finally worked up the courage to tell my parents, I sent them each a text message with a picture. I strategically planned it so they couldn't call because I would be in class. My mom was the first to react. She was angry and disappointed. She didn't want

anything to do with me. When my dad replied to my message a day later, he expressed his feelings in the same way he does everything; simple, blunt, and in a mumbled voice. He was upset, but he said he loved me anyway. I had not been expecting that. He was the one who had always told me that if I got any sort of tattoo, I was out. No more family fun time for me.

I didn't speak to mom for a while, and when we finally started talking again it was forced and awkward. I could not wrap my mind around why she was so upset. On many occasions we talked about getting tattoos; even mother, daughter tattoos. So what was so bad about mine? All she seemed to care about though was my employability. As I reflect now, I almost feel like I showed off my tattoo during my interviews. Like I was trying to prove a point to my mother; that

just because I had a tattoo did not mean I was worthless.

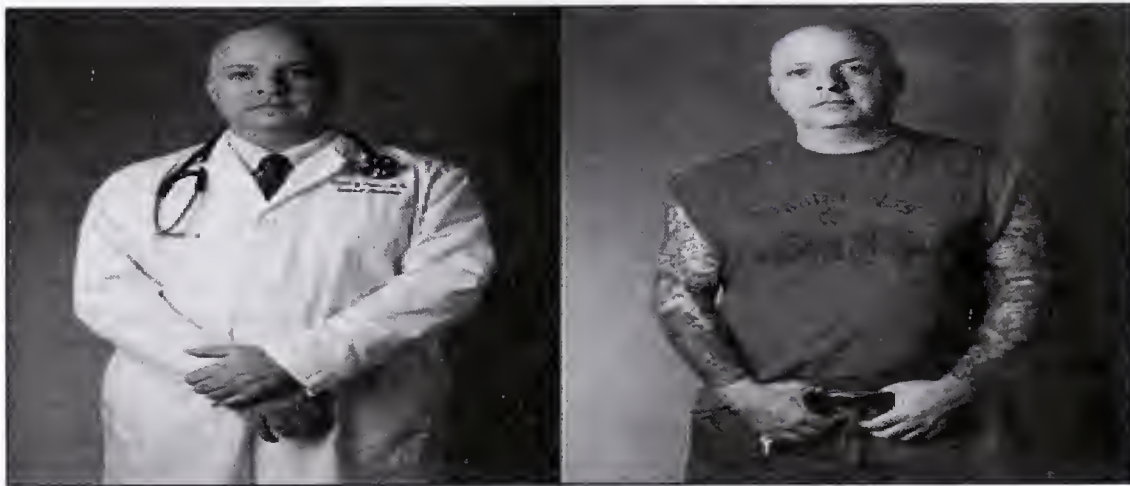
Being tattooed should not put a value on someone's head. It should not lower their employability. It should not mark them as a bad or dangerous person. It should not be something you use to degrade them. If anything they are something to revel in. It takes courage to get a tattoo. It hurts; you will probably bleed a little, and it is not cheap. Tattooing is an art form, just like painting or sculpting. It take time and care. A tattoo is like any other piece of art. So judge me for my attitude, judge me for inability to stay focused for a long periods of time, but do not judge my tattoo.



Who Broke the Government?

By Jimmy Kile
Opinions Writer

When is the government going to learn to grow up? The government has been (partially) shut down because of a disagreement between Democrats and Republicans over Obamacare. Democrats want Obamacare to be funded so the program can go into operation but Republicans refuse to pass a budget with funding to Obamacare. The shutdown proves just how childish our Senators and Representatives in D.C. are. Both parties are in a mindset of "my way or the highway" and that is not in the best interests of the American people. We don't need our elected representatives arguing with each other. We need them doing their job. Like the rest of us. If I stopped doing my job because I didn't like what was going on I would get fired. But what do politicians get? Front page headlines and daily updates on the evening news. Something about this doesn't seem right. We all have to do things we don't like. The two parties need to grow up and work together to come to some sort of agreement that will get our already messed up government back to work.



(Above) Photo courtesy Google Images. A common misconception about people with tattoos is that they are good-for-nothings who cannot hold a respectable job. The picture above may say differently.

(Below) Photo courtesy Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S. A freshman seminar class at the Puma Olympics during Freshman Orientation in August of 2013.



An Open Letter to Freshmen

By Mike Sosnowski
Opinions Editor

Since I am Senior I feel my time has come to impart my wisdom on the younger generation. After all I've learned a lot the last couple of years, granted mostly by screwing up but that ought to give more weight to what I have to say. So now is where you should read carefully and memorize EVERYTHING I'm about to say.

First things first, things change, a lot. Get used to it now. Ain't nothing gonna be the same

or not, for those classes- GO TO THEM. If for nothing else this school has a thing for attendance. But if you need a mental health day take one; just don't make everyday a mental health day.

And now for some last minute things. 1) Don't go to Bennett. Seriously I don't know why people still do that. 2) Don't leave football games halfway through. 3) Buy boots- it rains here a lot. 4) When it floods go play in the puddles. 5) If you're gonna transfer just do it, if you talk about it, it probably won't

between now and when you graduate. You're gonna gain and lose friends. Relationships will come and go. It's tough, suck it up. Don't, I repeat, don't let it be the sole factor in how your year progresses.

Next, don't bad mouth people. This is Saint Joe's there are no secrets here. That stuff gets around. Plus you look trashy if all you do is bad mouth. Seriously, if you bad mouth you get it right back when you leave the room.

Thirdly, go to class. You pay way to much money, scholarships

happen. 6) This is the only time you will get both free therapy and a free gym membership, use them. 7) A bike is the best way to get around campus. Skip the car and get a bike. 8) The café has and will always be awful, but it gets more tolerable as time goes on, really just plan for meals accordingly. 9) October and February are the worst months of the year. Prepare now.

Last but not least: four years go a lot faster than you think. Take some time and enjoy them, and don't let them slip by.

Observer Staff



- **Editors-in-Chief**
Randee Portteus
Jessica Ruschke
- **News Editors**
Randee Portteus
Jessica Ruschke
- **Opinion Editor**
Mike Sosnowski
- **Features Editors**
Corey Dowds
Kristina Hemmerling
- **Sports Editor**
Katie Guernsey
Bisrat Desta
- **Back Page Editors**
Nicole Thomsen
Gloria Leonard
- **Contributors**
Tabitha Blaisdell
Ashley Brinkman
Cheri Broch
Kylie Hill
Jimmy Kile
Victoria Lawson
Anthony Majewski
Fr. Tim McFarland
Connor Ring
Jon Smith
Chet Tunrbo
Patrick Wilson
- **Faculty**
Facilitator
Dr. Charles M. Kerlin

We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph's College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

Call of Duty: Is It A Bad Game?

By: Conne Ring
Staff Writer

In today's gaming world, most people have a preference for the type of games they like to play. Some people are big fans of the platformers, which use the basic "jump-here, hit-goal" gameplay that has worked well in a variety of games. Some people find the Role-Playing Games (RPG) to be quite enjoyable, where you will take on ambitious challenges and intense battle sequences all while developing a character. Others flock to the recently popular Multiplayer Online Battle Arena (MOBA) games, which use the power of the Internet to create intense and fast-paced action that focuses solely on making the multiplayer experience as fun as possible.

However, the biggest of any genre of video game in recent years goes to the First-Person Shooter (FPS) games that have swept the video game scene like wildfire. One of these FPS games, *Call of Duty*, has been a record-breaking series for many years in a row, as its stunning stories and simple gameplay brought in millions of fans to the series. Unfortunately, something so big must eventually fall, as *Call of Duty* has come under fire due to its formula being overused throughout its popularity. So is it really just a repeated cycle of a game we played years before, or

is there more to it than what we are looking at?

In terms of the storylines of *Call of Duty*, the actual plot lines are pretty solid. With each new iteration, there is always some new stake that is risked or some new twist added to the story, and in each game they work marvelously. Each of the changes is great at pushing the envelope, adding new twists to the story that most people would never have guessed. The game will tug at your core when it needs to, giving you plenty of time to get situated into the atmosphere of the plotlines and making you immersed as particular soldiers.

The only one that really falls short in this department was *Modern Warfare 3*, as the story didn't feel like it fit as well as the others did and, being the final installment of its own individual series, didn't live up to its predecessors. Even so, it wasn't a bad story by its own standards, but it had the misfortune to be compared to its older brothers.

It isn't the story that makes *Call of Duty* bad, so it must be the repetitive formula of multiplayer that everyone keeps mentioning. Well, that may not be as accurate as you would think either. The multiplayer of each game is always a blast to play, adding new features with each installment. From the addition of Kill Streaks in *Modern Warfare 2* to their

reformation into Score Streaks in *Black Ops 2*, each game makes something that puts it at a unique level when compared to its brothers. The only one that really didn't work out too well was the addition of COD Points in *Black Ops 1*, which tried to make a false currency that you earned by playing more games. Unfortunately, while its idea was

interesting it was sloppy overall, as by the time you unlocked the guns you wanted to purchase you had far beyond enough to afford them and the attachments you wanted to get for them. Even so, it isn't the formula that makes this game seem so bad to certain people either.

So what makes *Call of Duty* bad if it isn't its two biggest

features? Simply put, it is the gamers. We as players of the *Call of Duty* series all had that one game in the franchise that simply ruined the whole experience for us, and we didn't want anything to do with the game after these iterations. For me, it was *Black Ops 1*'s multiplayer that made me question why I even liked the game, and *Modern Warfare 3* only made me hate the series more.

However, after a friend recommended that I try *Black Ops 2*, I picked it up and played it for a bit. I am now at the highest level with all default skins for every weapon in the game. I enjoyed the game so much that I played enough to get all of that equipment. By giving myself a bit of time to cool off from the *Call of Duty* scene, I was able to rekindle the original fun that I had found in the previous titles of *Call of Duty*.

So it isn't the game itself that is really bad. It is that we eventually grow tired of the same formula, so we need to have some time to rekindle that original fire for the game that we loved before. In conclusion, the answer to this question is "No" but the formula, like many other games, become stale eventually. No series can stay popular forever, but I don't think *Call of Duty* will be disappearing anytime soon, and that is okay in my book.



Call of Duty has a lot of games that boys like to play. If you like guns, check it out.

Bastille Has No Bad Blood

By: Tabitha Blaisdell
Staff Writer

Contrary to the album title *Bad Blood*, the members of Bastille don't have one bad gene because for the band themselves, there's nothing but talent.

Bastille is an alternative rock/electronica band originating from London England. They have received a lot of attention across the U.K with their album debuting at number one after its March release. At last, their highly anticipated album *Bad Blood* has been released to the U.S just earlier this month. Now they can finally receive the world wide recognition they deserve.

The first song that I heard by Bastille was "Pompeii." Some of you may be familiar with this song as well. Over the summer, it received a fair amount of radio play on alternative and rock stations. "Pompeii" is an addictive song with an uplifting beat. The tribal chanting it implements reminds me of a song that would be featured on *The Lion King* soundtrack. The similarity it has to *The Lion King* only makes the song more enjoyable. If you're a *Lion King* fan like me, you should definitely check out the song.

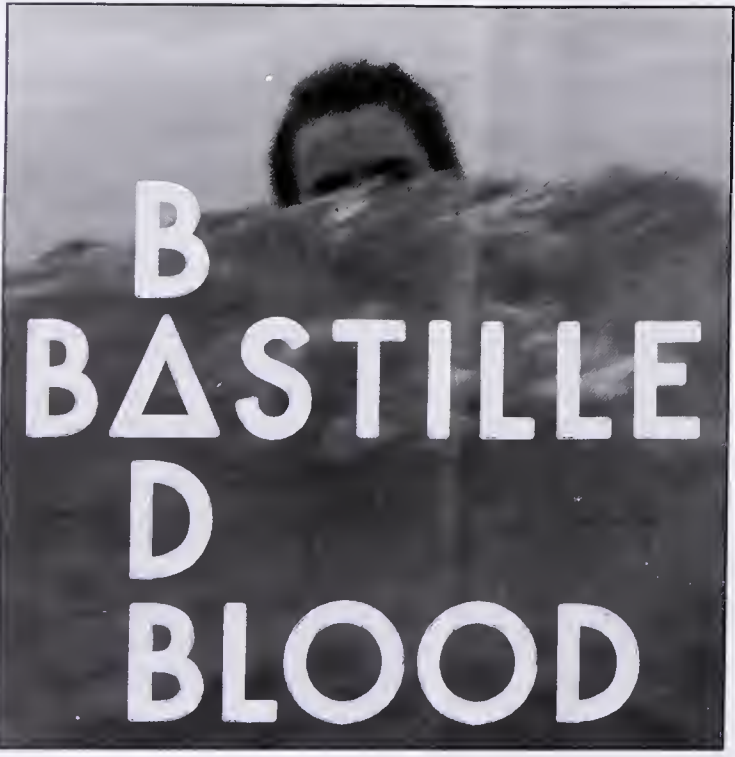
After hearing "Pompeii," I went to YouTube to see if Bastille would be a one hit wonder or if they'd become a new favorite band. To my satisfaction, Bastille's songs surprised me

in many ways. They have a refreshingly diverse sound that is portrayed in every one of their songs and the lead singer of Bastille also has a very impressive vocal range.

Their album *Bad Blood* contains fifteen songs, all of which I love! Aside from "Pompeii," my utmost favorite songs from *Bad Blood* are "Laughter Lines," "Oblivion," and "Flaws." "Laughter Lines" is my first favorite because of how beautifully written and composed it is. It has an intriguing and eerie intro to it, which just adds to the overall element of the song. The

lyrics are also very sentimental. "Oblivion" is another favorite because lead singer Dan Smith's voice has a really soft and pure sound to it, as well as having well written lyrics. Lastly, "Flaws" is a favorite of mine for two reasons: the tempo is captivating and the lyrics are meaningful.

Bad Blood is full of diversity, from captivating tunes to heartfelt melodies. Bastille has created a mixture of songs that can appeal to many people. It is genuinely an extraordinary album. If you're yearning for some new and distinctive music, I highly recommend you check it out.



Amazing Race Alternate Team11



By: Cheri Broch
Guest Writer

The Amazing Race - a campus wide activity involving scavenger hunts, eating contests, and other trials in which teams attempt to win the coveted iPad Mini started out with over twenty teams and ended with one. I had the chance to be an alternate on the first day of competition and see what all the buzz was about.

As all the teams filed in, in their colorful bandanas, you could see that everyone was antsy to get started. We all signed in and attempted to listen to instructions that were yelled to all of us over the commotion.

The first challenge was knock out, and involved hand-eye coordination and an ability to shoot a basketball. Since I had neither, my partner Kristina got to do it. Contestants ran around with a basketball or dodgeball/volleyball and attempted to make the basket first. Without stepping into the blue circle of death, of

course. Don't want that.

We did surprisingly well and got our placement in the line for getting the next clue. The team that won, which made sense since she was a basketball player, got a minute lead and every team came next with ten seconds in between. The next clue had so much writing that it was overwhelming! So we ran into the Hub and, not being able to talk, attempted to get people to text the allotted number.

However, we were in such a frenzy that we didn't read the whole clue... and none of the text messages counted, which came in fast enough that we would have been second. We didn't know to get them to text their names and locations. Basically there was some questionable reading skills. We managed to move on to the next round with a comfortable spot of ten out of twenty-something with three teams being eliminated. Overall it was fun, but I'm glad I was an alternate.

The Loch: Book Review

By: Randee Portteus
Co-Editor in Chief

It's hard to say when I started to become obsessed with cryptozoology - I knew it was long before I knew what the word meant. I remember reading things like Paul Zindel's *Loch* and Susan Cooper's *The Boggart* and the Monster and being captivated by the idea of a mysterious and unknown creature lurking in the depths of a placid lake. I guess I've always been fascinated by things that are, as yet, undiscovered.

I think it might have been better if I hadn't discovered *The Loch* by Steve Alten. The story starts with our hero, marine biologist Zachary Wallace (a descendant of the great William Wallace, memorably portrayed by Mel Gibson in *Braveheart*) as he is on an expedition to capture footage of a live giant squid. Wallace succeeds in locating and filming the squid and he also almost succeeds in drowning when something goes terribly wrong with the submarine he is in. Wallace is rescued and revived at the surface, but he is left with a crippling fear of water.

With his career seemingly over, Wallace begins to drink himself into a haze and blow through any and all savings he had. This continues for months, until he gets a call from his father - the abusive, neglectful, son of a bitch that Wallace can't stand. His father is on trial for murder, and asks that his son come home to Scotland to see him one last time. Unbeknownst to Wallace, his father has many shenanigans up his sleeve, and a teary goodbye is the last thing he

has in mind. Wallace soon finds himself chasing after ghosts in Loch Ness as well as ghosts from his past.

I suppose I shouldn't have expected much from a book about the Loch Ness Monster. I just always hold out such hope for these things. But before I get ahead of myself, let me clarify:

there were things in this novel that really, really worked for me, and things that didn't even come close. I'll start with the bad first. Zachary Wallace was about as three dimensional as a cardboard cutout of a human being. He was whiny, predictable, and altogether unbearable throughout the entire novel. I didn't like him at the

beginning of the novel, I didn't like him when he fell from grace, I sort of liked him when he finally started doing something, but then at the end I found I still didn't really like him.

His character development was next to nonexistent; I found his backstory unbelievable and boring (how can it be both? Well,

read the novel and you'll see what I mean); and again he was just whiny about everything. It was a rare and amazing thing to see him actually accomplish a task.

The other characters aren't much better. They're actions and interactions seem robotic in most places and just plain contrived in others. They're more like soap opera characters than anything else.

And all of this is a real shame because Alten really could have had something interesting, all things considered. First of all, there is the fact that Zachary Wallace is supposed to be a descendant of William Wallace. This leads to an interesting recap of Scottish history and folklore. I actually learned something reading about William Wallace and the feud between the English and the Scots.

On top of this, Zachary Wallace is a marine biologist, which lead to a great deal of science included in the book. This, too, was really fascinating, as well as believable. This mixture of history, myth, and science added up to a great tale. The only failing Alten really had was his characters. Had they not been in the story at all, it would have made for a great novel. Unfortunately, they were and they kind of ruined the story as a whole.

Overall, I'd give the novel three out of five stars. Although the characters made me grind my teeth, I found other aspects of the novel genuinely interesting. Though it's not a great read, if you're bored and looking for something to waste some time with, *The Loch* is that kind of book.



This excellent story takes a common myth- the Loch Ness Monster- and turns it into an intriguing and entertaining story. If you like mystery and crazy creatures, this is the book for you.

The Last of Us

By: Corey Dowds
Single White Female
Looking for That Special Lover

As a lover of all types of media and art, I believe it is important for people to keep innovating and progressing. Whether it is music, paintings, movies, photography, or the like, I always appreciate the ideas of doing something new to keep things fresh. Of course we can have an appreciation for the new and perhaps more conventional- we can always go back and look at the Mona Lisa, but I think it is a fundamental aspect of art to be innovated, on the edge! Something I would consider to be this type of artistic progression would be *The Last of Us*.

My best friend introduced me to the *Last of Us* this summer, raving about it's critical acclaim. So, knowing this I went "halfies" on the game. In case you were chilling with some anglerfish at the bottom of the ocean for the entirety of the summer, *The Last of Us* is a video game about the

apocalypse. Real light-hearted stuff right? I know, it sounds a little bit typical, especially considering it a zombie-apocalypse, which if you haven't noticed is more popular than porn in our current culture. With this in mind, one might think it might be hard to differentiate this type of media from your common *Walking Dead* or *Dawn of the Dead*, but let me tell you folks, you would be DEAD wrong about that one!

More than anything else, this video game is about relationships, and it is praised as having one of the most touching relationships in video game history. This relationship is between Joel and Annie, who if you don't sob a few times during the course of the game, your probably a sociopath, and we shouldn't be friends. If you have done that, you can stop reading this article actually. Anyway, this game is pretty much an interactive movie. Using riveting cut scenes, the relationship of the two characters develops from a more business-

like relationship, to eventually the two characters come to understand each other, and perhaps much more. But you can play the stinking game, it's for PS3 so all you have to do is drop like \$900 and you can be satisfied for up to 8 hours, which like \$120 per hour. And they say money can't buy happiness!

Anyway, before I get into a full-blown NERD-FEST, let us change it up. If you have not noticed, I said video games are art. WHOA. Isn't that crazy? I think they can fill any criteria that any art-snoot can throw out. Of course I'm not really talking about certain aspects of video games. Like if you are playing *Grand-Theft Auto 5* and decide to run over prostitutes in a fire truck for the next 3 hours, that isn't exactly Pablo Picasso-worthy. Or if you are playing candy-crush (you know who you are!) just because your cycling through a lot of colors does not mean you are painting a picture. The difference here is the conveying of a message- using images, sounds,

character development, and what have you to develop said ideas. Whether people believe that video games can do that or not, well it is honestly your loss. However if you are open to the idea of games being meaningful, you can actually make them not a waste of time, which is pretty much any video-game enthusiasts dream.

I mean, take me for example. At the end of the game, I was sitting alone in my room, without a girlfriend, shaking from caffeine and with thick body-odor. Is that not every man's dream? Despite being alone and smelly in my room at 5:00 in the morning over the summer, at least I immersed myself in something new, escaping from reality and into a world full of real action and even emotion. I know it is hard for some people to sympathize with, especially in an era of doodle-jump and other potential vices, such as Netflix or alcohol. Here me out though Saint Joseph's: If you have an open mind- you can like a lot of stuff.

Anyway, this game is amazing.

I mean it is simple- it doesn't complicate things, gameplay wise. It uses third-person perspective and keeps things simple. You pretty much run throughout the game, gun down zombies, and progress in a linear path. The environment are lush and diverse, featuring 4 different types of settings in conjunction with the 4 seasons which is how the game divides itself. I could ramble on about this game in a but the most sophisticated way to describe it is REALLY SWEET. I own it so if you want to borrow it feel free to ask me or email me if you want. Also I would tell you about the online play but I didn't really mess with it because the single player was superb plus I'm not 14 years old anymore.

So let's review. *The Last of Us* is a game that uses a zombie-apocalypse to bring unlikely characters together, and using simple gameplay and cut scenes, brings the characters to life to create a virtual and artistic masterpiece!

Homecoming Victory for the Pumas

By Patrick Wilson
Sports Staff Writer

In what was originally guaranteed to be a hot, muggy day, the St. Joe homecoming game weather ended up being wet and rainy. Coming into the game the Pumas were 3-1 and coming off a couple of good wins against Aldersson Broaddus and Trine University. This week the Pumas hosted the Kentucky Wesleyan Panthers who until this week were just 1-13 in their last 14 meetings with SJC.

Things didn't change much at the conclusion of this game. The Pumas capped the game with a 35-9 victory. A nearly two hour delay saw players, coaches, and fans anticipating play to resume, however due to lightning it never did. Coach Brent Holsclaw of the Panthers called the game after

much deliberation. When the game began, just three minutes and twenty-two seconds in, Julian Walker caught a 39-yard touchdown pass from Billy VandeMerkt that capped a five play, eighty-five yard drive. Just two minutes later, running back James Wilson busted a 28-yard run to give the Pumas a quick 14-0 lead just 6 minutes into the game. Getting on the board, kicker Ballinger of the Panthers banged home a 34-yard field goal to pull them a little closer at 14-3 with seven minutes and twenty-five seconds left in the first half.

With just minutes left in the first, Kobi Cook finished a seven play, thirty-five yard drive with an 18-yard touchdown run to give the Pumas a 21-3 lead.

In the second quarter,

essentially the second half of the game, Braxton Shelton scampered into the end zone on a 13-yard run to give the Pumas a 28-3 lead. After a back and forth second quarter that saw continued flip-flopping of field position, SJC drove down the field with just forty-nine seconds left and capped the short drive with an 11-yard touchdown pass for the second time from Vandemerkt to Walker. This gave the Pumas a strangling 35-3 lead going into halftime.

After a quick three-and-out, Kentucky Wesleyan pre-season All-American Jeff Ward returned a 79-yard punt to the house. The kick was no good bringing the game to a 35-9 Puma lead.

With bad weather rolling in, play stopped and players ran off the field with ten minutes and

thirty-nine seconds left in the third quarter. After continuous lighting strikes, coaches and refs were forced to call the game much to the dismay of Coach Holsclaw who may have seen the all-important "momentum" advantage swinging in their favor.

A great played game in all facets for the Pumas, they were led by a number of great performances. Kobi Cook and Braxton Shelton each ran for over a hundred yards a piece accounting for two touchdowns between them. Julian Walker had only three catches but resulted in 58-yards and two touchdowns.

On defense the Pumas had a great overall effort across the board, highlighted by Gary Yeoman who accounted for a sack and was all over the field. Also Patrick Vitek and Andrew Soulis picked up a sack a piece for the Pumas as they harassed quarterback Will Barnes of the Panthers who struggled all day.

The Pumas will not have a home game until October 26th, in which they will face newly inducted GLVC team McKendree University. However, they will be heading to Illinois next week, where they will play Quincy followed by a measuring stick game against Missouri S&T in Rolla, Missouri.

Freshman Brian Dillon dives for the tackle to keep KWC from scoring.

Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.



Upcoming Events

October 11th

Men's and Women's
Cross Country
@ Eagle Invitational,
Benedictine University

Women's and Men's Soccer
vs. McKendree University
5:00 & 7:30 p.m.

Volleyball
@ McKendree University
7:00 p.m.

October 12th

Football
@ Quincy University
6:00 p.m.

Men's Tennis
vs. Purdue Calumet
& Goshen College

Volleyball
@ University of Illinois-
Springfield
3:00 p.m.

October 13th

Men's and Women's Tennis
vs. Calumet St. Joseph

Women's and Men's Soccer
vs. Bellarmine University
12:00 & 2:30 p.m.

October 14th & 15th

Men's Golf
@ Midwest Regional

Lady Puma Volleyball Fights Hard

By Jon Smith
Sports Staff Writer

The Saint Joseph's volleyball team fought hard over the weekend as they faced two tough GLVC opponents.

First the Pumas played the

University of Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles in a hard fought battle on Friday night. The Pumas fell to the Screaming Eagles 3-1 but the game was filled with excitement. At first the offense from the Screaming Eagles seemed like it might be a little too much for the Pumas as

they were outmatched early in the first set losing 25-15. The second set went pretty much the same for both teams. The Screaming Eagles dominated offensively and the Pumas were just overmatched in the set and eventually fell 25-14.

The third set is where

the Pumas turned it on both offensively and defensively. The set was close early on and the Pumas were up 8-7. After that the Pumas took charge and really started to put the pressure on the Screaming Eagles and went on a 6-1 run to control the set 14-8. A couple of points later the Screaming Eagles would come back out with a rally of their own and eventually cut their deficit to only two at 20-18. The Pumas would not let the Screaming Eagles steal this set however, and they won the set 25-22. The fourth set was up and down for the Pumas as they fell behind early 11-5 and that put them in a hole. They rallied back and tried to force a fifth set as they cut the lead to one and were only down 19-18. However it seemed like the teams had switched spots as the Screaming Eagles refused to let

the Pumas back into the set. The Pumas eventually lost the set 25-22 and the match 3-1.

The next match the Pumas played over the weekend was on Saturday against the Bellarmine University Knights. This game would go much like the previous game for the Pumas. The Pumas just put themselves in a hole early that would prove again to be too big to crawl out of. The Knights came out on fire and took a commanding 2-0 lead on the first two sets against the Pumas. The fist set was hard fought as the Pumas lost 25-22 while the second set was dominated by the Knights, winning 25-15. The Pumas would do the same as their game on Friday and rally back and win the third set 25-21. The fourth set again was where the Pumas fell as they lost in hard fought set 25-21 and losing the match 3-1.

The Pumas will face another tough opponent in their next match up when they host the University of Indianapolis on Tuesday night at 7 p.m.



Sophomore Jackie Purcell receives serve.

Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.

Cross Country Update

By Bisrat Desta
Sports Editor

Coming off back-to-back excellent meets, the Pumas were anxiously waiting on their next shot at some PRs (personal records).

They traveled Edwardsville, Illinois to run at the John Flamer Invitational this past homecoming weekend. The last time Saint Joe ran at this meet in 2010 the boys left Edwardsville with victories while the women finished top 3. The Pumas were hoping for the same results this year.

The juniors and seniors that had that taste of success from 2010 wanted to repeat as champions and carry the momentum on to the postseason.

"The Flamer meet was an exciting meet, it was also one of my better races," said senior Matt Philips.

The underclassmen were also looking forward to leaving the meet with some personal bests and a trophy.

"From what I heard from

the upperclassmen we all have a chance to finish top twenty at this meet," stated freshman Lane Barrett.

The training that the Pumas have put in these past two weeks, (titled "Hell Week" by Coach Bill Massoels) should show what kind of shape the runners were in. They had a combination of workouts in these two weeks that prepared them in each aspects of the race from beginning to end. Coach Massoels put together a series of speed and stamina workouts that were supposed to result in some PRs for the Pumas.

This is right about the time some teams start to peak and run fast times but the Pumas were hoping that they don't peak until conference or regionals which will be key.

For some of the Pumas, Hell Week paid off. Junior Logan Barrett won the invitational for the Pumas, beating out the second place runner by three seconds. The men finished fourth overall, with four runners placing in the top 15. They finished only two



points behind the third place team.

The women placed fifth out of seven, with the top runner, senior Trisha Hanlon, finishing 14th. The women all placed between 14th and 35th.

Their next meet will be in

Lisle, Illinois for the Eagle Invitational, then they will travel to Missouri for the GLVC conference meet. The Pumas hope their training will pay off and they will peak at the right time for a much-deserved victory.

Senior Frehiwet Negassi and junior Andie Strang compete at the Catholic Invite while senior Richard Kaht watches from the sidelines.

Photo by Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P. S.

Men Miss the Mark, Women Improve

By Katie Guernsey
Sports Editor

While the rest of the Pumas were at home celebrating Homecoming, the soccer teams

were off competing.

They first traveled to the University of Illinois-Springfield on Friday. The men lost 3-1, the lone goal coming from Mike

Lipton. The keeper, senior Steve Quella, finished with seven saves, five coming in the first half.

The women's team was a different story. They won

3-2 in extra time, the winning goal coming from sophomore Elizabeth Travis. Sophomore keeper Amanda Volk made eight total saves throughout the game with the extra time.

This was the first win of the season for the Lady Pumas under the new coach, Amanda Reese.

On Saturday the teams traveled to the University of Southern Indiana. The men fell 3-2 to the Screaming Eagles with goals coming from a converted shot from Lipton to Cole Galloway and from Galloway to Tyler Blankenship.

The women on Saturday could not continue with their

momentum. They lost 3-0 to the Screaming Eagles. The Pumas, only attempting five shots to USI's fifteen, eleven coming in the second half. All three of USI's goals came in the second half of the game. The Pumas ended the game with seven total saves.

The men's team is now 2-7-1 overall and 1-7-0 in the GLVC. The women's record, similar to that of the men's, is 1-6-1 overall and 1-5-1 in GLVC play. The teams have approximately seven matches left in the season and hope to improve their record.

The Pumas will host Cedarville University on Tuesday October 8th then McKendree University on October 11th.

Senior Ian Connelly pushes the ball up the field against Truman State. Though he has not scored yet this season, he nearly tied the game up against Quincy University.

Photo by Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.



Puma Athlete Profile: Jake Bulthuis



By Nicole Thomsen
Sports Editor

Jake is a junior Biology major with a focus in wildlife ecology and a double minor in Sustainability and Earth and Science. He is from Homer Glen, IL and a pitches for the baseball team.

What made you come to the Joe?
"I felt it was the right place

when I walked onto the campus, especially the baseball field during my visit. It was one of those 'you just know' things."

What's an interesting fact about you?

"I've been hiking in the Alaskan wilderness."

If you were a super hero what would your name be?

"Triple B."

If you were a plant what would you be?

"What kind of question is that? ... A willow tree?"

Are you excited for 'Hell Week'?

"Yes, VERY."

Describe your dream girl.

"Kinda tall, blonde, not typical, as weird as me."

College sports or the pros?

"The pros."

Who is your favorite music artist and why?

"Earl Dubbles Jr. because he's hilarious."

What's your favorite color?

"Orange or blue depending on how I feel."

Do you have any tattoos? Where?

"I have Pac-Man tattooed ... on my ass."

Know someone that deserves the spotlight? Let us know! E-mail their name and sport to kg18533@saintjoe.edu.

Common Problems: Dealing With Puma Rumors

Have questions for Common Problems? Please e-mail Gloria Leonard at glv9696@saintjoe.edu!

By Victoria Lawson

It's safe to say one of the most common problems at SJC is Puma rumors. Whether it has to do with a girl's night out gone out of control, Sally's got fake boobs or Bob really does have a girlfriend back home-- they happen to all of us. They can get nasty, wild, weird and can be completely untrue. The thing that you need to keep in mind is that we all will be talked about one way or another. With that being said, we might as well learn how to deal with these Puma rumors. They all start at the same place: gossip. Every rumor begins with someone talking about someone else. Before we even begin to address what you should do when a Puma rumor is about you, we should talk about why you shouldn't start a Puma rumor in the first place. The answer is simple: would you want

a Puma rumor to be about you? The easiest way to deal with a Puma rumor is to just act like life is normal. You shouldn't freak out in the cafeteria, in class, at work, or in the lounge—or anywhere public for that matter. You also shouldn't worry so much about what the girl from your anatomy lab is saying about you. Does she matter? Is she a friend? Most likely not. The other issue with Puma rumors is that they tend to be ridiculously exaggerated. For example, Sally told Mary she couldn't be in class because of a stomach bug. Mary told Bob

Sally was sick. Bob told Fred that Sally had morning sickness. Fred told Angie. Angie told everyone

and that's all that matters. Don't let your peers' comments get to you. We all have bad nights and everyone at some point will be talked about. Let it roll off your back. You will find out the truth and the only person that has to deal with what you did—or did not do-- is you. This campus is small and people are bound to talk about each other but if you keep the incident to yourself it will help wipe the issue out. It is so simple to get caught up in the hogwash of these rumors.



Sally is pregnant. Before we know it Sally is expecting twins! Don't start the telephone game-- it's not cool! Regardless of the rumor being spread, you know the truth

Here is a quick guide to Puma Rumors:

1. Don't start a rumor, even if it is funny-- it's mean and just flat out rude!

2. Don't start a rumor about yourself. Being an attention whore is not cool.
3. Don't add to a rumor or continue to keep it going.
4. Shake off the rumors.
5. Keep your chin up! Someone will always try to bring you down.
6. Never ever make a big deal about the rumor in a public place. EVER.
7. Keep in mind you're probably not the first to have a rumor spread about you.
8. Do not under any circumstances spread a rumor about someone else to distract people from your rumor! SELFISH!
9. Reconsider who you trust in your friend circle...
10. Life goes on. This is only a speed bump, not a stop sign.

Creative Corner

Poems!



Drawing by Gloria Leonard

Autumn
By Gloria Leonard

Visible breath, goose bump skin
Pull out the sweatshirts from the closet again
Green to yellow, orange and red
Time for school, roll out of bed
Autumn has met us here
Crunching leaves and rakes are near
Soups, pumpkins, no more sands
Walking through a corn maze holding hands



Harvested corn and the Fall Dance
Always a fire, don't leave it to chance
Rolling around, leaves in our hair
Look up to the sky, the trees are bare.

Waking Up
By Kristina Hemmerling

Waking up
Is the best part of the day.
I see your face
And the night before melts away.

All the pain,
The anger,
The sadness built up
It no longer matters.

Because when you and I are together
It all just feels right.
Even when things get bad
I know that as long as we make it through the night
You'll be okay
And no longer upset.

This is cheesy
And lame
To write poems about love
But I don't think I care.

You make me smile
Make me laugh
And I'm just happy to have you.

So I'll write all the cheesy poems in the world
If it'll keep your smile from the morning
On your face all day long.

Change
By Chet Tunrbo

After the storms fade away
Before the flowers begin to bloom
Clearer focus needs to take place
Deciding what defines you
From deep within
Everything can change for the better
Grey skies can turn to blue

Feeling creative? Please send any poems, short stories or even art work that you would like to have featured on the back page to Nicole Thomsen at ntu9187@saintjoe.edu

My Condolences
By Nicole Thomsen

I create monsters.
It's true.
I take the nicest of men.
I turn them into swine.
A man who would
Publicly
Slander
His former sweetheart.
A monster who would say
That
Bitch
Has
A
Dead
Baby
In
Her
Vagina.
Why? Are you shocked?
I don't understand.
I create monsters,
It's True.
Even in the nicest of men.



Drawing by Nicole Thomsen